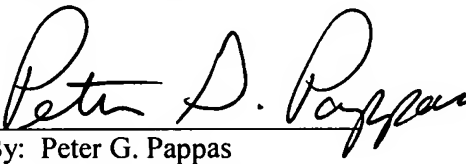


New U.S. Application
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Remarks

Applicants hereby claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(a) and 35 U.S.C. §365(b) to German Patent Application No. 103 38 870.2 filed August 20, 2003. The specification has been amended to include the priority application information. The claims have been amended to put the claims in a more preferred format for U.S. examination, to eliminate multiple dependencies, and to more clearly recite the claimed invention.

Respectfully submitted,


By: Peter G. Pappas
Reg. No. 33,205

Date: October 17, 2005

SUTHERLAND ASBILL & BRENNAN LLP
999 Peachtree Street NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3996
Telephone: (404) 853-8064
Facsimile: (404) 853-8806

Attorney Docket No. 17346-0021